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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/764,324	01/16/2001	Hui Wang	3262.1	7505
22886	7590	05/11/2006	EXAMINER	
AFFYMETRIX, INC			MORAN, MARJORIE A	
ATTN: CHIEF IP COUNSEL, LEGAL DEPT.			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3420 CENTRAL EXPRESSWAY				
SANTA CLARA, CA 95051			1631	

DATE MAILED: 05/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/764,324	WANG ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Marjorie A. Moran	1631

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 19 August 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

a) The period for reply expires ____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. The Notice of Appeal was filed on 19 August 2004. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
 (a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 (b) They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
 (c) They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 (d) They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
 5. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
 6. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) ____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

7. For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) will not be entered, or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.
 Claim(s) objected to: _____.
 Claim(s) rejected: 13-30.
 Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: 1-12.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
 9. The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
 10. The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
 12. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
 13. Other: _____.

*Marjorie A. Moran
5/10/04*

Marjorie A. Moran
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1631

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: in response to the argument on page 2 of the response that the claims do not recite new matter as the specification teaches that "target molecules" may be transcripts, a target molecule may be detected using probes, and that the claimed method provide an approach to select target sequences and process them for designing a probe array, it is noted that the claims do not recite "transcripts" nor a step of actually detecting a target molecule. Nowhere does applicant point to a specific teaching or other disclosure which supports SELECTING probes which TARGET exemplar or consensus sequences FOR DESIGNING a probe array. Further, probes which target a general "candidate sequence" are not the same as probes which target a consensus or exemplar sequence. AS the general disclosure of the specification does not provide support for the specific limitations recited in the claims, the examiner maintains that the claims recite new matter.

In response to the argument that the specification provides "details" for selection of candidate sequences, etc., set forth on page 3 of the response, it is noted that the rejection is one of indefiniteness, (35 USC 112, 2nd para) not one of lack of enablement or lack of written description. As limitations from the specification cannot be "read into" the claims, the examiner maintains that the claim are unclear for the reasons set forth in the final rejection.

In response to arguments with regard to the prior art, it is noted that limitations argued by applicant are not recited in the claims; specifically "selection of candidate sequences based on consensus or exemplar sequences for microarray analysis" and "analysis of clustered sequences." The claims do not recite microarray analysis anywhere. Claim 13 recites selecting PROBES TARGETING consensus or exemplar sequences and REFINING clusters of raw data, but nowhere do the claims recite the argued limitations. As the examiner maintains that the combination of prior art references does not make obvious the claimed method, the rejection is maintained.